

# Lifeline

Growing together in faith,  
centered in Christ,  
serving God's world with love.

**August 16, 2018**

After a summer filled with mission trips, sabbaticals, vacation bible school, retreats, and hashtags, I hope that you are all ready for the slate of fall opportunities coming up at Lord of Life. Inside this issue of the Lifeline, you will find everything you need to know about the upcoming Rally Day and Ministry Fair events. These two opportunities will help us connect to opportunities to grow together in faith and serve God's world with love. We'll follow that with 'God's Work, Our Hands' Day on September 9th where we'll be partnering with Rise Against Hunger to prepare over 10,000 meals to be sent out across the world. And this only gets us through the beginning of September!

As the fall continues, Sunday School will resume its usual schedule on August 26th, confirmation will return to Wednesday nights, and adult Bible studies will come back together. Our high school youth program will be going through some shifts in programming that will hopefully allow for more of our students to connect with their faith in a meaningful way. We will hear more from the Sunday Morning Task Force about the results of the survey that they facilitated with us. And through it all we will be opening ourselves to the ways that God is continuing to work in and through each of us.

Above all of these events and opportunities, I am most excited for our new fall worship series "Be the Light." This will be our first theme as we move into the fall, and it will also serve as our annual theme for Lord of Life. That means throughout the year, worship, retreats, Bible studies, and outreach opportunities will periodically point us back to this unifying theme. We will be studying and serving in many different capacities, but it is our hope that we are pulled together in our efforts to "Be the Light" in our community. Join us this weekend, August 19th, to hear all about the new theme and the opportunities that await you at Lord of Life this fall!

**Grace and Peace,**  
*Pastor David*



## **Pastor Gary on Sabbatical**

Pastor Gary will be on Sabbatical until August 27, 2018. Pastor David will assume all pastoral leadership, assisted by occasional guest preachers, as well as staff and congregational members to share the ministry workload. You can reach Pastor David at 281-367-7016 or [PastorDavid@lordoflifeonline.org](mailto:PastorDavid@lordoflifeonline.org).



### Vacation Bible School

We had an incredible week at VBS July 23-27. Children learned how “Jesus Rescues”...when we are lonely, when we worry, when we struggle, when we do wrong, and when we are powerless. Lord of Life was able to serve 130+ children! That means, over 130 children were told that Jesus loves them, no matter what. That is powerful! Thank you to all of our VBS volunteers. We had over 60 volunteers serve as crew leaders, station leaders and kitchen staff. Vacation Bible School could not have been possible without you.



**Rally Sunday**, August 19, 11:30-1:30. Rally Sunday is the day we kick off all of the faith-filled learning opportunities at Lord of Life. There will be tables in the fellowship hall showcasing all of the Christian learning opportunities available to our community. We will have hamburgers and hot dogs, a bounce house for the kids and more! You are invited to join us for this fun event and bring a “picnic-style” side dish to share.

### Families of all shapes and sizes!

Join us for our first Faith-Full Families event of the 2018-2019 school year! Our hope is that together we can strengthen family bonds by celebrating, playing and creating. We want each family to be empowered to create traditions and rituals which will bring an awareness of God into their homes. A sign-up will be opened prior to the event. We look forward to a night of fun, fellowship and faith building on Sunday, September 30 at 4:30pm. Dinner provided!

### Lord of Life Ministry Fair, Sunday, August 26th

Is God calling you to share your faith, time and talents? Visit the Fellowship Hall on Aug. 26th to find ways to share your gifts of time and talent or you can just get more information on what is going on at Lord of Life. The Fair will showcase all our ministries and you will be able to see how your particular talents can be used to serve others.

*Something for all ages - bring the kids!*



### Want to contribute? We have an app for that!

Download GivePlus Church for free from the Apple App Store or Google Play. Simply search for “GivePlus Church” to quickly find and download the app. You can easily make donations directly from your smartphone using your debit/credit card and/or checking/savings account. Search for Lord of Life among the list of churches (be sure to pick the right one).

You can also choose to donate as a guest, use your existing online giving email and password, or set up a new account that allows you to securely and

conveniently make a one-time contribution, buy tickets to an event, or schedule recurring donations. You can still use existing online and text giving capabilities if you prefer. We hope you enjoy this way to contribute to our ministry, and thank you for your support.

### Financial Update as of 7/21/18

**Regular Giving:** At the end of July, the Lord of Life congregation is meeting its challenge on increasing regular giving in 2018 as we are \$46,006 over last year and \$18,440 ahead of budget. We are not out of the woods yet, however: our largest giving shortfall occurred in August 2017, there are pending maintenance issues that could quickly increase our spending requirements and the next 5 months are typically the largest giving months of the church year.

**Operating Expenditures:** Expenditures at the end of July are under budget by \$33,977. This positive position is largely due to Director of Outreach position being vacant and timing of seasonal expenditures. As noted above, pending air conditioning and audio repairs could quickly change our expenditure position, however, our committees and staff are working hard to keep these items as reasonable as possible. Our expenditures are also less due to our intentional decrease in our tithe to the Synod. It is still the hope that our financial status at the end of the year would allow the options to increase giving to the Synod and/or increase our cash reserve position which has weakened over the last several years.

**Welcome One Another:** During the first seven months of 2018, the focus of the Welcome One Another campaign was finalizing the Welcome Center and paying down the mortgage. We are happy to report substantial progress on the reduction of the mortgage balance.



**KIDS OF THE KINGDOM**

**Call Today!**  
281-298-9901

See what people are saying...

“All four of my kids have attended Kids of the Kingdom. It is the BEST Pre-School in The Woodlands and surrounding areas. I remember choosing KOK 11 years ago as it was small, secure (the building is locked during school hours) and the staff was warm, welcoming and loving. It remains the same today and we could not be happier. The teachers are top notch and they more than prepared my children for Kindergarten and beyond. Their commitment to teach an agenda that is faith based far exceeded our expectations. We LOVE KOK!”

“All three of my kids have gone through this program. My last baby is now in the pre-k program. They have all loved this school as have I. The staff loves and knows every child. You really are part of their family, or maybe they become a part of yours. I believe Kids of the Kingdom to be the best among the best of preschools. Truly a God centered, loving environment.”

**NOW OFFERING TOURS**  
**MON-THURS 9:30-1:30**

**Walk Ins Welcome**  
**No Appointment Necessary**

Call and speak with our kind and caring staff to find out how this preschool can profoundly impact your child's early education. Centrally located in The Woodlands, KOK has been serving children 18 months- 5 years old for over 20 years. This preschool will plant the seeds of God's love as well as build a strong foundation and love of learning in each child it serves. Dynamic 2, 3, or 4 day class options offered and includes weekly chapel, music, science, and motor movement enrichment.

**KIDS OF THE KINGDOM**  
3801 S Panther Creek Dr  
The Woodlands, TX 77381  
281-298-9901  
www.kokpreschool.net  
Monday – Thursday  
9:00-2:00

Ministry of Lord of Life  
Lutheran Church

<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	\$540,790
as of January 1, 2018	
<b>Principal repayments</b>	(245,000)
245,000) from WOA	
<b>Regular payments</b>	<u>(40,761)</u>
from operating budget	
<b>Mortgage Balance</b>	\$255,029
as of July 31, 2018	

At the end of July, 21.4% of WOA contributions (less tithe) has been directed toward mortgage prepayment. The Council has now temporarily suspended prepayments on the mortgage to build a cash balance to prepare for the next construction phase of the WOA campaign which will be the kitchen upgrade. Proposed plans will be reviewed with the congregation in coming months. Further reduction of the mortgage will be discussed/planned as estimates for the kitchen are completed. Note that the remaining mortgage balance includes the \$150,000 that was added for mold remediation.

**Both the Council and the Finance Committee would like to say thanks for the continued generous support of the congregation.**



# Worship & The Arts

Director of Worship and the Arts - Rev. Tamara Fincher [tfincher@](mailto:tfincher@lordoflifeonline.org)

*“You are the light of the world...let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.”  
Matthew 5:14a, 16*

What a great summer of worship, starting with #WakeUpCall and all the wonderful pictures, followed by “BeLoved”. The youth shared their experiences of the Youth Gathering with us on Youth Sunday. We worshipped in the set of Shipwrecked: Rescued by Jesus and the children shared a song from VBS.

Now school is starting and we are moving into a new worship series Be the Light! Our new series aligns with our Faith Formation department, Be the Light! as a theme for the school year 2018-2019. Beginning Aug. 19, we will introduce the theme in worship for a month of Sundays. Throughout the year, we will continue to explore the theme.

What are your favorite images of light? What can you think of that produces light? What does light do in our world? How are we light? Where will our exploration of light and being light take us?

Jesus said, “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” (John 9:5) As his followers, we are now the light of the world. Let us shine for the glory of God.

*“Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.” Isaiah 60:1*



## Calling All Artists - all mediums, all ages - for Gallery of Light

We are seeking all kinds of art for worship and display on our theme “Be the Light!” Images of things that produce light (ex. lightbulb, lighthouse, candles, etc. – think outside the bulb). Images of reflected light – mirrors, faces, etc. Images of ways that we can be light in our part of the world. Images of Jesus as light. Light from other cultures. You get the idea! We will have different needs for images of light throughout the next year – you may wish to think of light throughout the

church seasons: Advent, Epiphany, Lent (even lack of light), Easter season. Please contact Tammy Fincher, 281-367-7016, [tfincher@lordoflifeonline.org](mailto:tfincher@lordoflifeonline.org) for more information or if you have questions.

### Upcoming Worship:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| August 19   | “Be the Light!”, Rally Day  |
| August 26   | “Be the Light! Cracked Pots”, Ministry Fair                               |
| September 2 | “Be the Light! Heffalumps and Woozles”, Welcome Back to Pastor Gary Heath |
| September 9 | “Be the Light! Everything the Light Touches”, God’s Work, Our Hands       |

Lord of Life Lutheran Church is seeking a **contract percussionist** for our contemporary worship service. Primary duties are to play for our 9:45 Sunday morning worship service, including warm-up beginning at 9:25, weekly band rehearsals and personal rehearsal time. Please contact Tamara Fincher, Director of Worship and the Arts, [tfincher@lordoflifeonline.org](mailto:tfincher@lordoflifeonline.org) or 281-367-7016



# Outreach Ministries



**“Gods Work. Our Hands.” Day** is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA by dedicating a day of service to share the love of God with all of God’s people. On Sunday, September 9th our church is going to prepare 10,152 meals to feed families around the world. The Outreach committee has partnered with Rise Against Hunger for a meal packing event. Rise Against Hunger sends meals locally and around the world to feed hungry people. They provide us with everything we need to hold the event, even a facilitator to direct. We will be gathering in the fellowship hall for 3 sessions on Sunday, September 9th; 8:20am, 9:30am and 10:45am. There is a job for everyone, including little ones. Nursery care and light snacks will be provided. Please sign up for on of the time slots below and join the Outreach Committee in the fight against hunger.

[signupgenius.com/go/60b0f4fa4ab2fa57-gods](http://signupgenius.com/go/60b0f4fa4ab2fa57-gods)  
[RiseAgainstHunger.org](http://RiseAgainstHunger.org)

### Are you a “72-Hour Lutheran”?

Hurricane season is from June 1 through November 30. Being prepared to take care of your own family and your own congregational members allows you to then reach out and help others within your community. We encourage each and every one of you to become a 72-Hour Lutheran, a person who has enough supplies in their home to meet their household’s basic needs for 72 hours. For a complete list, visit our synod website [GulfCoastSynod.org](http://GulfCoastSynod.org) or grab a pamphlet in our information center at Lord of Life.

### Weekday Welcome Desk Volunteers

The church office is looking for volunteers to help at the Welcome Desk during the week. Shifts are from 9-12:30 and 1-4. Pick the day of the week that works best for you. Tasks include: answering the phone, welcoming people, copying and other clerical tasks. If you are interested, please contact Office Manager Rick Janacek at 281-367-7016 or email [rjanacek@lordoflifeonline.org](mailto:rjanacek@lordoflifeonline.org).

**Homeless Ministry**  
WHAT WE DO: Lunches made and toiletries given to the Salvation Army the 4th Tuesday of every month at 1:00pm in the kitchen. **Join us Tuesday, August 28th**

### Red Cross Shelter Needs Our Help

Preparations for hurricanes and disaster relief don’t begin **after** the disaster occurs. If you would like to be ready to help in a time of great need, contact the individuals listed below.

There are many opportunities to serve that don’t require a previous training class but if you wish to be involved in helping at the shelter, a brief training session that includes a background check must be completed ahead of time.

- Kathy Gaskamp [kathy.gaskamp@att.net](mailto:kathy.gaskamp@att.net)  
 Sue Moehring [suemoboos@att.net](mailto:suemoboos@att.net)  
 James Burkett [jfburk@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jfburk@sbcglobal.net) 713-882-9230

From James Burkett Sts. Simon and Jude Shelter Coordinator: “We have created some new shelter positions since Harvey and we are seeking volunteers to be part of those positions and with interest in becoming part of our leadership team.” Red Cross Volunteer Connection: [goo.gl/ZCyJMB](http://goo.gl/ZCyJMB)



Visit the **Hands of Faith Fair Trade Ministry** in the Welcome Center at Lord of Life. Ministry hours are Wednesday 11:00am-7:30pm, Saturday 10:00am-2:00pm and Sunday 9:00am-11:30am (1st Sunday of the month till 12:30pm).

[Visit our Facebook page “Hands of Faith Fair Trade”](#) to see exciting new items arriving weekly. Learn more at [LOLOnline.org/hands-of-faith-fair-trade-ministry/](http://LOLOnline.org/hands-of-faith-fair-trade-ministry/).

**Volunteering at our Hands of Faith Fair Trade ministry** is a great opportunity to learn about our vendors and our Fair Trade ministry. Teenagers can earn community service hours plus gain cash handling experience. No experience necessary! Sign up for shifts at [goo.gl/6jo3uG](http://goo.gl/6jo3uG)

# Children's Ministries

Visit our website for a complete list of children's activities: [LOLOnline.org/childrens-ministries/](http://LOLOnline.org/childrens-ministries/)



**The Footsteps in Faith program at Lord of Life** provides opportunities and tools for children and parents to deepen their faith and renew their commitment to faith education and their church community. Children complete faith journey milestones that include attending learning events and receiving congregational recognition and blessings.  
**3 years old:** Welcome to Sunday School  
**Kindergarten:** The Greatest Commandment  
**1st Grade:** The Lord's Prayer  
**2nd Grade:** "Prayer is..."  
**3rd Grade:** What's in the Bible  
**4th Grade:** Baptism  
**5th Grade:** Communion

## Looking Ahead to the New School Year:

- August 26:** First Day of Sunday School
- September 2:** No Sunday School (Labor Day)
- September 16:** Club 56 Pool Party 12:30pm
- September 16:** Kindergarten Footsteps in Faith - Greatest Commandment
- September 23 & 30:** 3rd Grade Footsteps in Faith-Learn the Bible
- September 30:** Faith-Full Families 4:30-6pm with Dinner to follow
- October 7:** Bibles Presented to 3rd Graders in Worship
- October 12:** Kids Night Out; Club 56 Event; Game Night for Grown-ups 6-9pm
- October 20:** 5th Grade Footstep-Communion

# Teen Life Ministries

See more Youth updates at [LOLOnline.org/teen-life-ministry/](http://LOLOnline.org/teen-life-ministry/)



Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 16th to see our youth and staff go head-to-head in a softball game. Whether you're coming to play or cheer, it will be a great time together sweating it out at a local park. More details coming soon.

**Confirmation is almost upon us!** We will be starting on Wednesday nights on September 5th with a parent and youth meeting at 7:00. If you are a parent of an incoming 7th grader, please let Patrick know if you plan on being a part of our confirmation program and ministry. [pnazaroff@lordoflifeonline.org](mailto:pnazaroff@lordoflifeonline.org)

## A Note from Patrick

This past summer, our Youth and Children's ministry did something new and hired four high school aged summer interns (Jill Bohnet, Daley Craft, Aaron Soltmann, and Garrett Tomasek) to help plan, lead, and experience our summer programming. These four students were an amazing benefit and blessing to our program, our staff, and to myself and Katie. They brought excitement, energy, and enthusiasm into the office every week and made Vacation Bible School and our Mini-Mission Trip a better experience than we had hoped. I have been so impressed with their leadership and commitment to the ministry here at Lord of Life, and I am so excited to see their leadership in action in our youth group and our church. Thank you all for a great summer of ministry!

## Sunday School starts Sunday, Aug. 26!

Jr. High meets upstairs in Rm. 24.  
Sr. High meets upstairs in Rm. 25

## Sunday School begins August 26!

We invite children from 3-years-old through 6th grade to join us from 9:45-10:45am in the following areas:  
*3-year-olds through 4th Grade:* Meet in Room 3 in the Kids of the Kingdom Hallway  
*Club 56 (5th and 6th grade):* Meet in Room 26 upstairs

# Congregational Life

## DRAFT (Dads Refreshing & Fellowshiping Together)

Calling All Dads: Meet at 8:00pm at Goose's Acre on the Waterway 2nd Thursday every month. Next meeting: Thursday, September 13th. Join us for beer and fellowship. To receive a monthly email reminder, please contact David Bohmann at [bohmannm@gmail.com](mailto:bohmannm@gmail.com)

**LOL member John McKenna prepares for a safe climb. BSA Camp Alexander, Lake George, CO.**



## Scouting at Lord of Life

It's been nearly two years since organized Scouting returned to Lord of Life, and the families of Troop 89 and Pack 883 continue to be busy building the next generation of leaders. Troop meetings are held Monday evenings. Learn more about membership by contact Lord of Life members Jenny McKenna ([jennymckenna@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jennymckenna@sbcglobal.net)) or Julie O'Toole ([883yis@gmail.com](mailto:883yis@gmail.com)). If you are a former Scout or an adult who would like to share their professional or life experience with this amazing group of young men, new merit badge counselors are always needed. Please contact Jenny or Julie to learn more.

This year, Boy Scouts of America has formally opened Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts to the entire family; boys and girls can now begin the path to Eagle starting in Kindergarten. Pack 883 also starts this year with new leadership with LOL member Marc Hoffland accepting the position of Cubmaster. He and his team have been busy planning an exciting program for the school year and would love to welcome new families to the Pack at its upcoming Open House on Tuesday, September 4th, 6 pm, Lord of Life. Meetings are typically held the second Tuesday of the month. Learn more by visiting: [WoodlandsCubScouts.com](http://WoodlandsCubScouts.com) or contact Marc at [pack883hoffland@yahoo.com](mailto:pack883hoffland@yahoo.com).

## Part-time Nursery Workers Needed

Seeking adults 21 and over. Flexible hours include days, evenings and occasional Sunday mornings. Must pass background check. References and quality of character will be checked, as well. Please email resumes to Pastor David at [pastordavid@LordofLifeOnline.org](mailto:pastordavid@LordofLifeOnline.org). Pays \$10+/hr. Must love children and understand appropriate cognitive/emotional milestones. Collaborative/team spirit needed, as well as confidentiality and understanding of our [Safe Sanctuary](#) policies. Training will be provided.

## New Member Class

Our next 4-Part New Member Series will begin September 16, 2018, during the 9:45 worship time in the conference room and will continue each Sunday through October 7 . New members will be received in to the congregation in a small ceremony at the worship service of their choice on October 14, 2018. We will cover various topics: Getting to Know You! \* Lutheranism 101 \* Spiritual Gifts & Talents \* Exploring Church ministries \* A Tour of the Bible in One Hour. Childcare will always be available. For more information, you can contact our church office at 281-367-7016 or Cindy Maxwell, Connecting Ministries Coordinator, [cmaxwell@LordofLifeOnline.org](mailto:cmaxwell@LordofLifeOnline.org)

## Our Goals

Each year at our Leadership Retreat, our Church Council selects three main goals for the year.

### This year the three goals are:

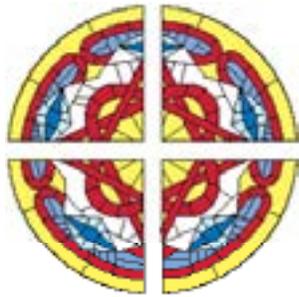
- 1. Sunday morning faith formation/ worship times** and opportunities
  - 2. Update technology** for better functioning by staff and congregation.
  - 3. Small Group Development** to help people connect and grow
- Talk to the pastors, staff or council representatives to see how you can help Lord of Life grow toward God's purpose for us in our community.

## Lord of Life Lutheran Church

3801 South Panther Creek Dr.

The Woodlands TX 77381

[www.LordofLifeOnline.org](http://www.LordofLifeOnline.org)



*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

### Lord of Life Lutheran Church 281-367-7016

Fax 281-363-4716

[LordofLifeOnline.org](http://LordofLifeOnline.org)

email us at [lol@lordoflifeonline.org](mailto:lol@lordoflifeonline.org)

Kids of the Kingdom

Preschool 281-298-9901

We invite you to join us for  
worship on Sundays  
(NEW TIMES!)

8:20 am Contemporary Liturgical Worship

9:45 am Sunday School for all Ages

9:45 am New Life Worship

11:05 am Traditional Worship



Texas-Louisiana Gulf Coast Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
God's work. Our hands.

*Your Church Staff*

#### **Rev. Gary Heath**

*Senior Pastor*

#### **Rev. David Bauser**

*Associate Pastor*

#### **Tammy Fincher**

*Director of Worship & The Arts*

#### **Rob Hunt**

*Organist/Choirmaster*

#### **Lanette Jackson**

*Director of Finance*

#### **Marna Arlien**

*Communications Coordinator*

#### **Patrick Nazaroff**

*Director of Teen Life Ministry*

#### **Katie Phillips**

*Director of Children's Faith  
Formation*

#### **Sarah Schlacks**

*Bells of Life Director*

#### **Jeremy Kelsey**

*Coordinator of Instrumental Music*

#### **Cindy Maxwell**

*Connecting Ministries Coordinator*

#### **Nancy Hauglie**

*Wedding Coordinator*

#### **Sandy DeSelms**

*Funeral Coordinator*

#### **Rick Janacek**

*Office Manager*

#### **Michelle McGuire**

*KOK Preschool Director*

#### **Carlos Robles**

*Custodian*

#### **Nicki Forester**

*Nursery Coordinator*